

*SA gets green light by U.S. House to start next phase of river restoration project*

(San Antonio, TX) - Coinciding with today's groundbreaking on the Mission Reach portion of the San Antonio River Improvements Project (SARIP), Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced an essential approval for the next phase of SARIP has been secured, green-lighting the use of local funds to kick-start the project's next phase. By request of Congressman Rodriguez, the House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water approved a request by the Army Corps of Engineers to allow the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) to start the next phase of the multi-year Federal-State partnership project with local funds.

"As the San Antonio representative on the House Committee on Appropriations, it is a top priority for me to help San Antonio complete the vital River Improvements Project," said Congressman Ciro Rodriguez. "Working closely with SARA, I urged the Subcommittee Chairman to grant San Antonio quickly the needed approval to move forward with the Mission Reach phase using local funds. I am happy to have been a catalyst for the start of this important next phase, and I look forward to continuing my work with SARIP to move this important project forward and continuing to advocate for San Antonio in Congress."

"Congressman Rodriguez's assistance in securing approval for SARA to accelerate the use of local funds committed to the Mission Reach project will allow the construction of phase I to proceed on schedule, while we await the outcome of the federal appropriations process later this year," SARA Board Chairman Louis Rowe said. "Adding this flexibility in the use of the Mission Reach funding provides more certainty in the project's implementation."

Congressman Rodriguez serves as a Member of the House Committee on Appropriations.

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